

Capsule Summary
SM-424
Norman Curtis House
Maddox vicinity
Private

1935

The Norman Curtis House is significant as a modest, early twentieth century frame structure built by an African-American tenant farmer. This two-story, two-bay building has changed little over the years. It retains its original weatherboard siding and six-over-six sash windows.

One of a series of modest two-story frame houses located along a ridge on the east side of Route 238, the Curtis house was built in 1935 on property owned by the Swann family. Originally part of a tract known as "Wicomico Fields", Norman and Emma Curtis purchased this three acre lot in 1954.

SM-424, Norman Curtis House
St. Mary's County
Maryland Comprehensive State Historic Preservation Plan Data

Historic Context

Geographic Organization: Western Shore

Chronological/Developmental Period: Modern Period, 1930 - present.

Historic Period Theme: Architecture

Resource Type

Category: Building

Historic Environment: Rural

Historic Function and Use: Residence

Known Design Source: None

**Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form**

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. Sm-424
Magi No.
DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common Norman Curtis House

2. Location

street & number _____ not for publication

city, town Maddox ☒ vicinity of congressional district 5

state Maryland county St. Mary's

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
			<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name James Roscoe Curtis

street & number _____ telephone no.: None

city, town Maddox state and zip code Md

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Clerk of Court liber DBK 151

street & number ST. Mary's County Courthouse folio 457

city, town Leonardtown state Md

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date _____ ☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records

city, town _____ state

7. Description

Survey No. SM-424

Condition

☐ excellent
☐ good
☒ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Contributing Resource Count: 1

The Norman Curtis House is located on the east side of Route 238 near Maddox in St. Mary's County, Maryland. The house is located on a ridge above the road and is surrounded by woods on its north, east, and south sides. Four small frame outbuildings extend to the east of the house. The house faces south, with the principal gable oriented on an east/west axis.

Constructed for Mr. Curtis in 1935, this frame structure consists of a two-story main block with a one-story addition on the east end. The house is supported by a cinderblock pier foundation. The exterior is sheathed with weatherboard siding. The roof is covered with seamed metal.

The south (main) elevation of the main block is pierced by a central entrance door flanked on either side by a six-over-six sash window with narrow surrounds. A shed roofed, screened porch extends across the first floor of this elevation. The second floor is lit by two six-over-six sash windows with narrow surrounds. An interior brick chimney pierces the south roof slope of the house. Both the roofline of the house and of the porch are finished with exposed rafter feet. The one-story addition to the east of the main block is pierced by an entrance door and one six-over-six sash window with narrow surrounds. An interior brick chimney pierces the roofline of this wing at its eastern end.

The east elevation of the main block is blind. One six-over-six sash window pierces the east end of the kitchen wing.

The north elevation of the one-story wing is lit by one six-over-six sash window. The main block is lit by two six-over-six sash windows on both the first and second floors. The roofline of the main block is finished with exposed rafter feet.

The west elevation is lit by one six-over-six sash window on both the first and second floor.

The interior was not seen.

Four frame outbuildings stand on the property. One of these is an old outhouse with a metal shed roof. Another is a meathouse in poor condition with an asphalt shingle roof. A chicken house with weatherboard siding and a shed roof stands to the east of the meathouse. Two doors pierce the south side of the chicken house. An old granary supported by cement block piers and roofed with metal stands at the eastern edge of the property.

8. Significance

Survey No.

SM-424

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates	1935	Builder/Architect	unknown
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check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Norman Curtis House is significant as a modest, early twentieth century frame structure built by an African-American tenant farmer. This two-story, two-bay building has changed little over the years. It retains its original weatherboard siding and six-over-six sash windows.

One of a series of modest two-story frame houses located along a ridge on the east side of Route 238, the Curtis house was built in 1935 on property owned by the Swann family. Originally part of a tract known as "Wicomico Fields", Norman and Emma Curtis purchased this three acre lot in 1954. James Roscoe Curtis, the current owner, worked for many years on a tobacco farm located nearby on the west side of Route 238. Curtis is now retired.

Survey No. SM-424

10. Geographical Data

Quadrangle scale 1:24 000

H | | | | |

The three Acres Surrounding the House

state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

state Md

MANITOWOC HISTORICAL TRUST
PHOTOGRAPH
100 COMMUNITY PLACE
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2023
514-7700

SM-424, Norman Curtis House
St. Mary's County
8.1 Significance

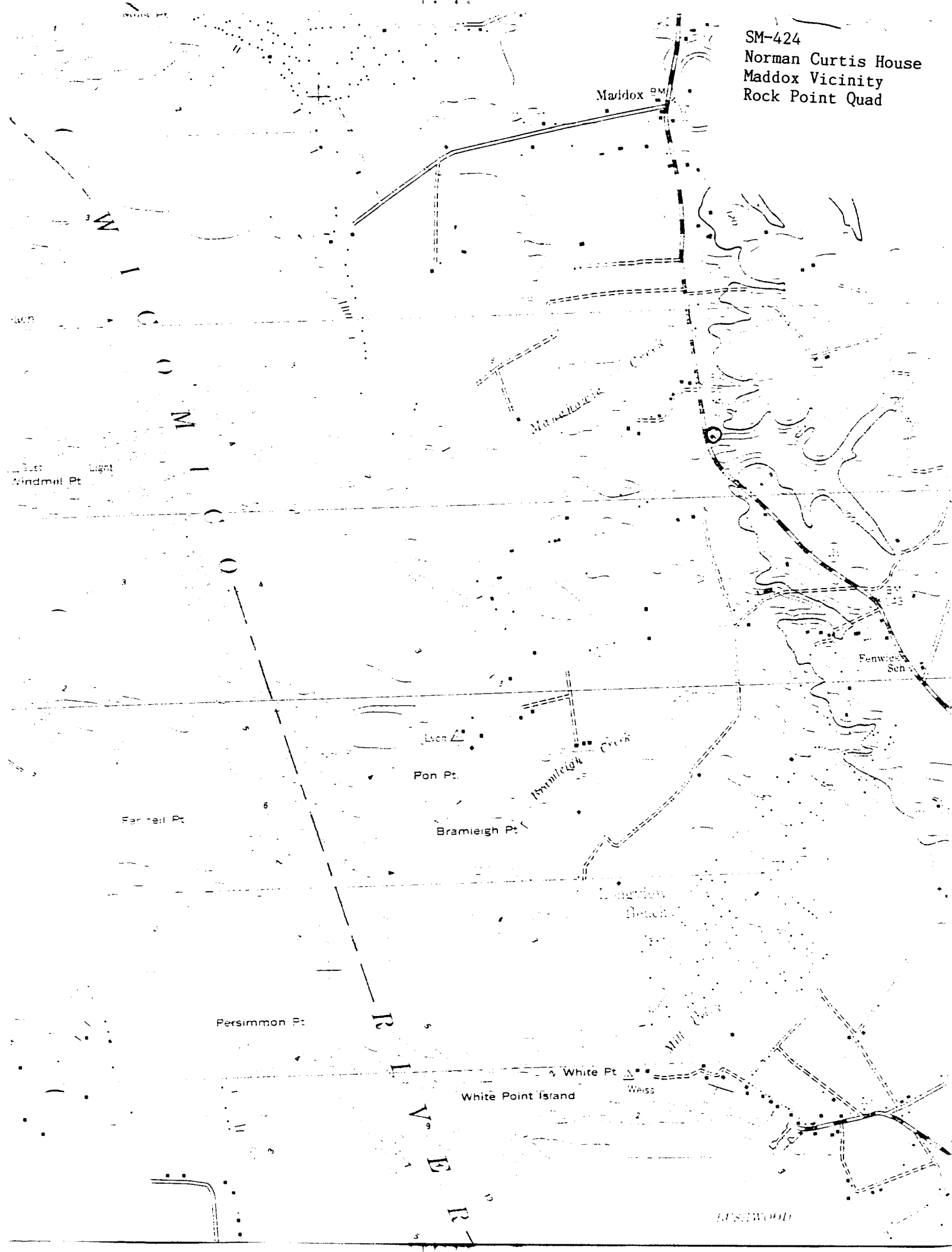
TO: James Roscoe Curtis and Mary Curtis
FROM: Norman and Emma Curtis
RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Record, Liber DBK 151, folio 457.
DATE: June 1969
NOTES: Transfer of part of CBG 50/522.

TO: Norman and Emma Curtis
FROM: Francis G. Swann and Julia L. Swann
RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Record, Liber CBG 50, folio 522.
DATE: June 5, 1954.
NOTES: Transfer of 3 acres on the east side of the state road leading from Maddox towards Sacred Heart R.C. Church.

TO: Francis Gwinn Swann and Julia Loretto Swann
FROM: Frank D. Swann and Fannie G. Swann
RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Record, Liber CBG 16, folio 249.
DATE: July 20, 1944.
NOTES: Transfer of portion of Wicomico Fields on public road from Maddox post office being 244 acres.

TO: Frank D. Swann
FROM: Arthur D. and Flora B. Carpenter, Newton Ford Carpenter, Alva S. Carpenter, Sidney C. Britton, and John Britton.
RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Record, Liber EBA 15, folio 370.
DATE: September 16, 1916.
NOTES: Transfer of Wicomico Fields being 289 acres. Price: \$6500

SM-424
Norman Curtis House
Maddox Vicinity
Rock Point Quad





SM-424, Norman Curtis House

St. Mary's County, MD

Elizabeth Hughes

March 1994

MD SHPD

Yy

SW Elevation



SM- 424 , Norman Curtis House

St Mary's County, MD

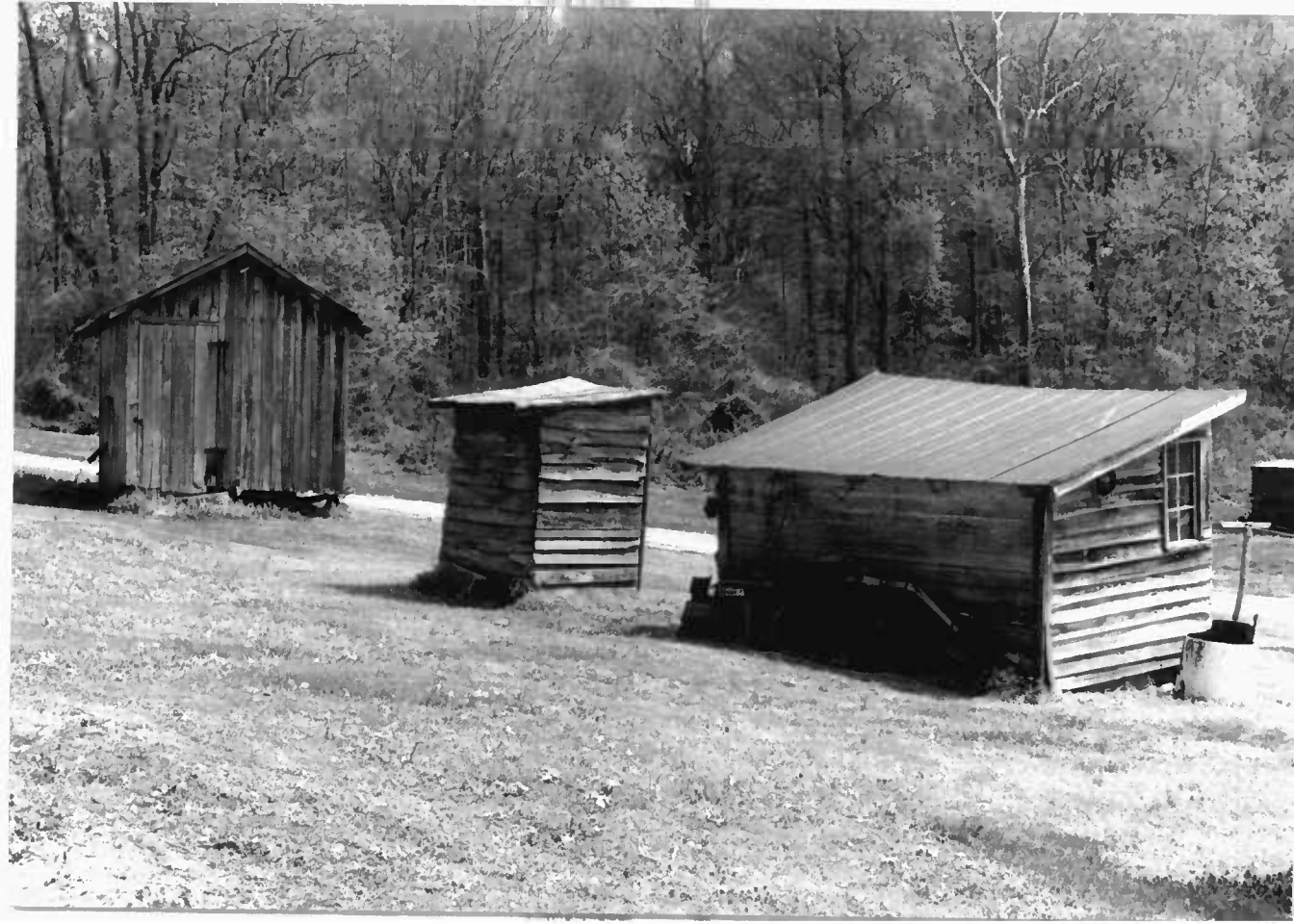
Elizabeth Hughes

March 1994

MD SHPO

2/4

NE Elevation



SM-424, Norman Curtis House

St. Mary's County, MD

Elizabeth Hughes

March 1994

MD SHPO

3/4

NE Elevation



SH-424, Norman Curtis House

St. Mary's County, MD

Elizabeth Hughes

March 1994

MD SHPO

James Roscoe Curtis